

105TH CONGRESS
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S. CON. RES. 6

Expressing concern for the continued deterioration of human rights in Afghanistan and emphasizing the need for a peaceful political settlement in that country.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 7, 1997

Mr. DODD submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing concern for the continued deterioration of human rights in Afghanistan and emphasizing the need for a peaceful political settlement in that country.

Whereas Congress recognizes that the legacy of civil conflict in Afghanistan during the last 17 years has had a devastating effect on the civilian population in that country and a particularly negative impact on the rights and security of women and girls;

Whereas the longstanding civil conflict in Afghanistan among the warring political and military factions has created an environment where the rights of women and girls are routinely violated;

Whereas the Afghan forces led by Burhanuddin Rabbani and Abdul Rashid Dostum are responsible for numerous abhorrent human rights abuses, including the rape, sexual abuse, torture, abduction, and persecution of women and girls;

Whereas Congress is disturbed by the upsurge of reported human rights abuses, including extreme restrictions placed on women and girls, since the Taliban coalition seized the capital city of Kabul;

Whereas Afghanistan is a sovereign nation and must work to solve its internal disputes; and

Whereas Afghanistan and the United States recognize international human rights conventions, such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, which espouse respect for basic human rights of all individuals without regard to race, religion, ethnicity, or gender: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring)*, That (a) Congress hereby—

3 (1) deplores the violations of international hu-
4 manitarian law by the Taliban coalition in Afghani-
5 stan and raises concern over the reported cases of
6 stoning, public executions, and street beatings;

7 (2) condemns the Taliban's targeted discrimina-
8 tion against women and girls and expresses deep
9 concern regarding the prohibition of employment
10 and education for women and girls; and

1 (3) takes note of the recent armed conflict in
2 Kabul, affirms the need for peace negotiations and
3 expresses hope that the Afghan parties will agree to
4 a cease-fire throughout the country.

5 (b) It is the sense of Congress that the President
6 should—

7 (1) continue to monitor the human rights situa-
8 tion in Afghanistan and should call for an end to
9 discrimination against women and girls in Afghani-
10 stan and for adherence by all factions in Afghani-
11 stan to international humanitarian law;

12 (2) review United States policy with respect to
13 Afghanistan if the Taliban coalition and others do
14 not cease immediately the harassment and other dis-
15 criminatory practices against women and girls;

16 (3) encourage efforts to procure a durable peace
17 in Afghanistan and should support the United Na-
18 tions Special Mission to Afghanistan led by Norbert
19 Holl to assist in brokering a peaceful resolution to
20 years of conflict;

21 (4) call upon the Government of Pakistan to
22 use its good offices with the Taliban to reverse the
23 Taliban's restrictive and discriminatory policies
24 against women and girls; and

1 (5) call upon other nations to cease providing
2 financial assistance, arms, and other kinds of sup-
3 port to the militaries or political organizations of
4 any of the warring factions in Afghanistan.

5 SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit
6 a copy of this concurrent resolution to the President with
7 the request that he further transmit such copy to the
8 United Nations and relevant parties in Afghanistan.

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